

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Mayor and Council Transit Task Force and to the general public that the Mayor and Council Transit Task Force will hold the following meeting which will be open to the public.



Mayor and Council Transit Task Force MINUTES

Monday, May 2, 2016, 4:00 p.m.

**Location: 149 N. Stone, 2nd Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701**

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m. with six (6) of the eleven (11) members present which established a quorum.

2. Introductions / Roll Call

*Members Present: Eugene Caywood, Chair (Ward 5)
Suzanne Schafer, Vice Chair (Ward 3)
Brian Flagg (Ward 2)
Margot Garcia, (Ward 6)
Sami Hamed (CTAC)
Linda Dobbyn (CTAC)*

*Members Absent: Peggy Hutchison (Ward 1)
David Heineking, U of A Advisory Member
Vacant (Mayor)
Vacant (Ward 4)
Vacant (CTAC)
Vacant (CTAC)*

*Staff Present: John Zukas, Transit Services Coordinator
Nicholas Scherer, Transit Services Coordinator
Kate Riley, General Manager of Sun Tran/Sun Van
Jared Forte, Assistant General Manager of Sun Tran/Sun Van
Kandi Young, Marketing & Communications Director for Sun Tran/Sun Van
Bob McGee, Scheduling Manager
Davita Mueller, Sun Tran Planning Analyst*

3. Approval of March 7, 2016 Minutes

Motion: *Margot Garcia moved to approve the Minutes as submitted.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *Unanimously*

4. Call to the Audience

There were no comments.

5. Election of Officers

Motion: *Margot Garcia moved to nominate Gene Caywood as Chair of the Transit Task Force.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *Unanimously.*

Motion: *Sami Hamed moved to nominate Suzanne Schafer as Vice Chair of the Transit Task Force.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *Unanimously.*

6. Update on Transit/Announcements

John Zukas announced that Jeremy Papuga has resigned and accepted a position in Michigan. Gene Caywood asked Mr. Zukas to relay to Mr. Papuga the appreciation of the Task Force for his service. John Zukas will be the Interim Transit Administrator.

Ronstadt Transit Redevelopment – Nicholas Scherer stated that staff is waiting for the pre-development agreement to present to Mayor and Council. Public comment ended yesterday.

Budget – The Budget Item on the Mayor and Council Agenda has been postponed.

High Capacity Transit Implementation Plan – The technical committee met April 14. Some discussion took place on whether the meetings were open to the public.

Motion: *Margot Garcia moved to request that the Transit Task Force ask for a public participation component to the High Capacity Transit Implementation Plan.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *Unanimously.*

Citizens' Transportation Advisory Committee – Carlos de Leon is working on this with the City Manager's Office. Several Task Force members expressed their interest in being included in the restructuring of this committee and a sense of urgency in getting this done.

Nicholas Scherer stated that Transit Task Force extension request is an item on the Consent Agenda for the June 7 Mayor and Council Meeting. The current term ends on June 2; therefore, the next Transit Task Force meeting will be on June 13, 2016.

RTA Transit Working Group – Nicholas Scherer stated that Performance Measures continue to be developed for RTA projects. Margot Garcia stated that the RTA approved \$18M to go ahead with the Broadway Widening Project. This includes eleven new bus pullouts. She expressed her concern that the plan will diminish functionality for buses because there will be a bus pullout at every stop.

Gene Caywood asked staff to provide a report from the RTA at the next meeting giving their reason for having a bus pullout at every stop. He also asked staff to provide the City policy for bus pullouts.

The Broadway Coalition was requested to be added to the list of Stakeholders.

7. Review of Proposed Transit General Fund Reductions

Jared Forte reported on the Proposed Transit General Fund Reductions. The Mayor and Council presented a list of options which include:

- *Reduce Thursday night Sun Link service by four hours ending at 10 p.m. instead of 2 a.m.*
- *Reduce Friday and Saturday night Sun Link by two hours ending service at 12 midnight instead of 2 a.m.*
- *Eliminate paper transfers*
- *Out of Area Fee for Optional ADA Service FY 16/17 \$2 and FY 17/18 \$4.*
- *Recommended Fare Increase in FY 16/17 of \$0.10 and for FY 17/18 of \$0.15.*

Suzanne Schafer expressed her concern for people who don't have the Sun Go Card. Discussion took place.

Motion: *Suzanne Schafer moved that the Transit Task Force support the Transfer Recommendation Policy as presented.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *4 Yes and 2 No votes from Gene Caywood and Brian Flagg.*

Margot Garcia expressed her concern that by reducing Sun Link hours, people are encouraged to drive. If they are going to a show downtown, they will not be able to take Sun Link home because of the shortened hours of operation. Discussion took place.

Motion: *Margot Garcia moved that Sun Link service on Thursday night end at midnight rather than at 10 p.m.as proposed.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *5 Yes and 1 No vote.*

Several members of the Task Force expressed their disappointment at the fare increase proposal and suggested that it was a bad time for an increase based on the recent Sun Tran strike.

Motion: *Margot Garcia moved that the Transit Task Force support the staff recommendation of a fare increase in FY 16/17 of \$0.10 and for FY 17/18 of \$0.15 as proposed.*

Seconded

Motion Failed: *2 Yes and 4 No votes.*

Motion: *Sami Hamed moved to recommend a fare increase of \$0.25 for FY 17/18. There was no second.*

Motion: *Sami Hamed made a motion to recommend a fare increase for the out of area fee for Sun Van (Optional ADA Service) as presented.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *Unanimously.*

Motion: *Sami moved to approve the proposed route changes as presented with the request to have Route 20 be named Route 9.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *Unanimously.*

Motion: *Suzanne Schafer moved that the Transit Task Force recommend the following changes to current fares:*

1. Increase prices of all 30-day passes by \$2, starting FY16/17. (Full fare would be \$44, economy \$17.)

- 2. Introduce an Economy 1-Day Pass, starting FY16/17. (Price to be determined)*
- 3. Develop a policy to provide a volume discount for stored value on SunGO cards. (To be implemented FY16/17)*
- 4. Promote and facilitate use of SunGO cards/tickets; i.e., work to maximize number of passengers using SunGO, not cash.*
- 5. Postpone base fare increase until FY17/18.*
- 6. Raise base fare by 25 cents FY17/18, increase applied to cash fare only.*
- 7. Revisit prices of all other period passes (UA, etc.) in time for FY17/18.*

Seconded

Motion Passed: *Unanimously.*

8. Next Steps: JWA Transit Workshop Report Policy Ideas

This item was held over until the next meeting.

9. Call to the Audience

Allen Benz – Mr. Benz commented on the issue of bus pullouts. He said that at the last PAG Working Group meeting Jim De Grood said that the RTA considers bus pullouts to be a safety issue.

10. Next meeting date and time/Meeting schedule

The next meeting will be June 13, 2016.

11. Future Meeting Agenda Items

*Five-Year Strategic Transit Plan Update
Bus Rapid Transit and Transit Oriented Development (Chris Nelson UoA)*

12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.